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South Dakota

Labor Bulletin

March 1991 Published April 1991

The South Dakota Department of Labor was Created to Serve South Dakotans

The South Dakota Department of Labor is one of 23 agencies that make up South Dakota's state government. Historically, the Wagner-Peyser Act of 1933 established a jointly financed federal-state system of public employment offices. The South Dakota Legislature approved provisions of the Wagner-Peyser Act in 1935. That same year, Congress passed the Social Security Act, requiring state governments to set up unemployment insurance programs. The first federally funded job training program in South Dakota began in 1961; several other federal training programs followed until the Job Training Partnership Act was created in 1982. The South Dakota Legislature adopted worker's compensation statutes in 1917 and placed responsibility for their administration with an industrial commissioner. During executive reorganization in the 1970s, the Division of Labor and Management was created and placed under the newly established Department of Labor.

The Department of Labor's Mission

Today, the Department of Labor's mission is to operate a statewide employer-employee labor exchange; to train unskilled youth and adults for entry or re-entry into the work force; to provide timely and accurate labor market data; to collect employer's unemployment insurance contributions and pay benefits to those individuals who have lost their jobs through no fault of their own; to advise employers and employees of their rights and responsibilities and administer state labor laws in a fair and equitable manner.

The Secretary of Labor oversees five major organizational structures within the South Dakota Department of Labor. These organizational structures are: Office of the Secretary, Office of Administration Services, Office of Unemployment Insurance, Office of Field Operations, and Division of Labor and Management.

The Office of the Secretary administers job training programs under the federally funded Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA). JTPA programs train unskilled youth and adults for entry into the work force and provide retraining for people who have been laid off from their jobs.

One of the JTPA programs in South Dakota is the School Transition to Employment Partnership (or STEP). The STEP program offers employers the opportunity to build a workforce for tomorrow. While training young workers, a business may receive reimbursement for some or all of the training costs. If an employer utilizes the Work Experience component, 100 percent of a youth's wages at public or non-profit agencies are paid through the South Dakota Department of Labor. Tryout employment also pays 100 percent of private-sector employee wages for a negotiated period of time. Through on-the-job training, employers are reimbursed up to 50 percent of the young employee's starting wages.

The Summer Youth Program gives employers the opportunity to hire young employees at reduced training costs during the summer. Earning at least federal minimum wage, applicants are employed by private, public or non-profit employers, working up to 270 hours during the summer. Some applicants can also enhance their reading, language, math and spelling skills through a daily study program.

JTPA also sponsors industrial-based and on-the-job training for adults. Industrial-based training assists new or expanding companies in acquiring a trained work force prior to or

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during company start-up. An employer may be reimbursed up to 50 percent of the employee's starting wage. Industrial-based training can include classroom instruction, on-the-job training or a combination of both. Applicants are usually job-ready, but lack specific training. Before the training begins, all applicants are assessed for attitude, previous work history, ability to learn specific skills and job interests.

Labor Market Information Center Analyzes South Dakota's Economy

The Labor Market Information Center is also included in the organizational structure of the Office of the Secretary. The Labor Market Information Center collects, analyzes and disseminates information on the South Dakota economy, labor market and population.

The third and final component of the organizational structure of the Office of the Secretary is technical services. This unit provides technical assistance and program evaluation for the many programs offered through Job Service of South Dakota. Some examples of these programs are: Job Corps, vocational testing, targeted jobs tax credit, and welfare to work transition programs.

The Office of Administration Services provides the primary support services for the Department of Labor. This office consists of such units as word processing, mail\print processing and automated data processing.

The Office of Unemployment Insurance identifies employers covered by state law, collects unemployment insurance contributions and employee wage information from employers and pays unemployment benefits to eligible applicants. This unit works closely with Job Service offices located across the state.

Job Service Offices are Located in 19 Communities

The Office of Field Operations is probably the most well known of all South Dakota Department of Labor offices. This office essentially is the Job Service division. There are 19 Job Service field offices statewide. These offices provide placement services for applicants looking for work, as well as employers who are seeking qualified applicants. They also provide training programs for applicants and unemployment insurance assistance to the public.

Division of Labor and Management Protects Employers and Employees

The Division of Labor and Management is also within the South Dakota Department of Labor. This division promotes and protects the rights of both employers and employees by administering state labor laws in the areas of wage and hour, child labor, public- and private-sector worker's compensation, public sector collective bargaining, and unemployment insurance appeals. This division endeavors to promote a productive relationship between labor and management.

For More Information...

As we stated at the beginning of this article, the South Dakota Department of Labor strives to serve the public by: locating suitable employment for workers; finding qualified workers for employers; resolving individual employment problems of employers and workers; lessening the financial burden of unemployment on the worker and the community; and disseminating appropriate occupational and employment information. For more information on South Dakota Department of Labor programs, call or write:

South Dakota Department of Labor

700 Governors Drive

Pierre, SD 57501-2291

(605) 773-3101

The South Dakota Department of Labor proudly salutes the men and women who served in Operation Desert Storm. We would like to take this opportunity to join all South Dakotans in welcoming these dedicated men and women home!!

South Dakota's Labor Market in March

In March 1991, nonfarm wage and salaried employment in South Dakota was 287,700. This is an increase of 7,800 jobs (or 2.8 percent) from year-ago employment levels.

The retail trade industry posted the largest job increase over the year, with the addition of 2,600 jobs. The two divisions showing the most growth in this industry were: eating and drinking establishments (1,100 jobs); and general merchandise, apparel and accessory stores (700 jobs). The rest of the growth was distributed among the remaining divisions.

The services industry noted a 1,700 (or 2.4 percent) job increase over year-ago levels. This job growth ranked second among all private industry groups. The divisions with the largest job growth were: medical and health services (700 jobs); and hotels, motels and amusements (600 jobs).

The construction industry gained 1,000 jobs from year-ago levels. The building sector gained 500 jobs; highway and street gained 100 jobs; and special trade contractors gained 400 jobs.

The transportation and public utilities industry noted job increases of 800 over year-ago levels. The transportation division captured 600 of the 800 jobs.

Government gained 700 jobs from year-ago levels. However, federal government decreased 300 jobs over the year, which may be partially attributed to laying off of census workers, which were hired last year to conduct the 1990 Census. Local government gained 800 jobs with 400 of those jobs in local education. Continued employment increases occurred in local education because more faculty and teacher aides were hired to address increased enrollments and students with special needs. In addition, new programs were included in some schools' curriculum this year.

Month-to-Month Employment Changes

The March 1991 nonfarm employment level was an increase of 1,500 jobs (or 0.5 percent) over the month. A review of month-to-month employment change reveals that the March 1991 nonfarm employment level of 287,700 is the highest March level ever recorded since the inception of the Current Employment Statistics survey in 1939.

The increase of 200 jobs in the local education sector of government typically occurs at this time every year and may be attributed to the hiring of additional workers, such as bus drivers for band concerts and end-of-the-year events. Additional sports officials were also hired to staff athletic tournaments.

The construction industry gained 200 jobs over the month and continued its upward employment swing. The majority of this increase was experienced in the highway and street sector of this industry.

The services industry also added 200 jobs over the month. The majority of this increase was concentrated in the hotels, motels and amusements and the personal and business divisions. Some of this increase may be tied to income tax preparers and the beginning of spring cleanup of motels and hotels which are closed during the winter months.

The retail trade industry experienced job growth of 200 jobs over the month. Job growth occurred in building materials and garden supplies, apparel and accessory stores, food stores, eating and drinking establishments and miscellaneous retail stores. As this variety, indicates growth was distributed throughout the retail trade industry.

The South Dakota labor force in March was 355,700. There were 340,200 South Dakotans employed and 15,500 unemployed. The unemployment rate for March was 4.4 percent, an increase from the February rate of 3.9 percent. The first three months of 1991, compared to the first three months of 1990, showed increased labor force levels of 1,200, increased employment levels of 1,600 and decreased unemployed levels of 400.

Benchmarked annual average labor force statistics for the nation and all states (including South Dakota and its counties) are now available from the Labor Market Information Center. In addition to current labor force statistics, historical labor force statistics are also available. For more information on these statistics, please call (605) 622-2314.

Persons in the Labor Force: Employed/Unemployed

	March 1991 (1)				March 1990			
	Labor Force(2)	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor Force(2)	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
United States	124,443,000	115,639,000	8,804,000	7.1(3)	123,789,000	117,093,000	6,697,000	5.4
South Dakota	355,700	340,200	15,500	4.4	354,300	339,500	14,800	4.2
Sioux Falls MSA	75,407	72,753	2,654	3.5	75,584	73,077	2,507	3.3
Rapid City MSA	39,079	37,400	1,679	4.3	39,257	37,728	1,529	3.9
Aurora	1,371	1,350	21	1.5	1,420	1,387	33	2.3
Beadle	9,018	8,507	511	5.7	8,990	8,436	554	6.2
Bennett	1,546	1,498	48	3.1	1,555	1,505	50	3.2
Bon Homme	3,416	3,280	136	4.0	3,380	3,343	37	1.1
Brookings	15,013	14,112	901	6.0	14,764	13,949	815	5.5
Brown	20,282	19,333	949	4.7	20,049	18,820	1,229	6.1
Brule	2,771	2,696	75	2.7	2,694	2,632	62	2.3
Buffalo	388	359	29	7.5	424	385	39	9.2
Butte	3,381	3,216	165	4.9	3,412	3,263	149	4.4
Campbell	1,043	985	58	5.6	1,095	1,047	48	4.4
Charles Mix	3,664	3,487	177	4.8	3,610	3,476	134	3.7
Clark	1,723	1,650	73	4.2	1,831	1,742	89	4.9
Clay	7,379	7,025	354	4.8	7,318	6,973	345	4.7
Codington	12,352	11,787	565	4.6	12,187	11,637	550	4.5
Corson	1,400	1,212	188	13.4	1,462	1,338	124	8.5
Custer	3,317	3,127	190	5.7	3,175	3,080	95	3.0
Davison	9,367	9,106	261	2.8	9,171	8,954	217	2.4
Day	3,261	2,930	331	10.2	3,251	3,057	194	6.0
Deuel	2,165	2,084	81	3.7	2,238	2,116	122	5.5
Dewey	1,847	1,693	154	8.3	2,048	1,841	207	10.1
Douglas	1,503	1,468	35	2.3	1,566	1,520	46	2.9
Edmunds	1,874	1,811	63	3.4	1,979	1,902	77	3.9
Fall River	3,097	2,914	183	5.9	3,278	3,133	145	4.4
Faulk	1,088	1,067	21	1.9	1,184	1,141	43	3.6
Grant	4,096	3,885	211	5.2	4,096	3,889	207	5.1
Gregory	2,226	2,166	60	2.7	2,269	2,205	64	2.8
Haakon	1,082	1,063	19	1.8	1,120	1,093	27	2.4
Hamlin	2,358	2,233	125	5.3	2,317	2,226	91	3.9
Hand	1,764	1,710	54	3.1	1,883	1,823	60	3.2
Hanson	1,380	1,290	90	6.5	1,439	1,336	103	7.2
Harding	704	689	15	2.1	786	749	37	4.7
Hughes	8,079	7,845	234	2.9	8,168	7,911	257	3.1
Hutchinson	3,904	3,764	140	3.6	4,092	3,958	134	3.3
Hyde	807	778	29	3.6	862	821	41	4.8
Jackson	1,470	1,426	44	3.0	1,480	1,424	56	3.8

Persons in the Labor Force: Employed/Unemployed

	March 1991 (1)				March 1990			
	Labor Force(2)	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor Force(2)	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
Jerauld	1,133	1,062	71	6.3	1,157	1,105	52	4.5
Jones	603	547	56	9.3	627	565	62	9.9
Kingsbury	2,513	2,378	135	5.4	2,578	2,475	103	4.0
Lake	5,105	4,838	267	5.2	5,169	4,803	366	7.1
Lawrence	13,839	13,132	707	5.1	11,638	11,123	515	4.4
Lincoln	7,222	6,989	233	3.2	7,209	6,932	277	3.8
Lyman	1,412	1,326	86	6.1	1,418	1,360	58	4.1
McCook	2,671	2,579	92	3.4	2,825	2,726	99	3.5
McPherson	1,395	1,357	38	2.7	1,479	1,411	68	4.6
Marshall	2,049	1,953	96	4.7	2,214	2,082	132	6.0
Meade	9,697	9,272	425	4.4	9,147	8,737	410	4.5
Mellette	815	754	61	7.5	892	849	43	4.8
Miner	1,691	1,599	92	5.4	1,520	1,487	33	2.2
Minnehaha	75,407	72,753	2,654	3.5	75,584	73,077	2,507	3.3
Moody	3,132	2,936	196	6.3	3,200	3,059	141	4.4
Pennington	39,079	37,400	1,679	4.3	39,257	37,728	1,529	3.9
Perkins	2,192	2,132	60	2.7	2,311	2,257	54	2.3
Potter	1,292	1,255	37	2.9	1,377	1,350	27	2.0
Roberts	4,441	4,143	298	6.7	4,467	4,167	300	6.7
Sanborn	1,086	1,015	71	6.5	1,118	1,044	74	6.6
Shannon	2,357	2,161	196	8.3	2,325	2,178	147	6.3
Spink	3,359	3,249	110	3.3	3,517	3,380	137	3.9
Stanley	1,273	1,185	88	6.9	1,408	1,311	97	6.9
Sully	710	677	33	4.6	743	720	23	3.1
Todd	2,536	2,384	152	6.0	2,693	2,463	230	8.5
Tripp	3,136	3,015	121	3.9	3,190	3,085	105	3.3
Turner	4,146	4,013	133	3.2	3,990	3,880	110	2.8
Union	6,362	6,053	309	4.9	5,925	5,691	234	3.9
Walworth	2,788	2,700	88	3.2	2,786	2,678	108	3.9
Yankton	11,006	10,731	275	2.5	10,803	10,580	223	2.1
Ziebach	1,088	1,048	40	3.7	1,101	1,064	37	3.4

(1) Preliminary data subject to revision.
(2) Labor force estimates include employed and unemployed civilians 16 years old and older by place of residence.
(3) The seasonally-adjusted rates which were announced by the national government were 6.5 and 5.3. The data in this table are not seasonally-adjusted.

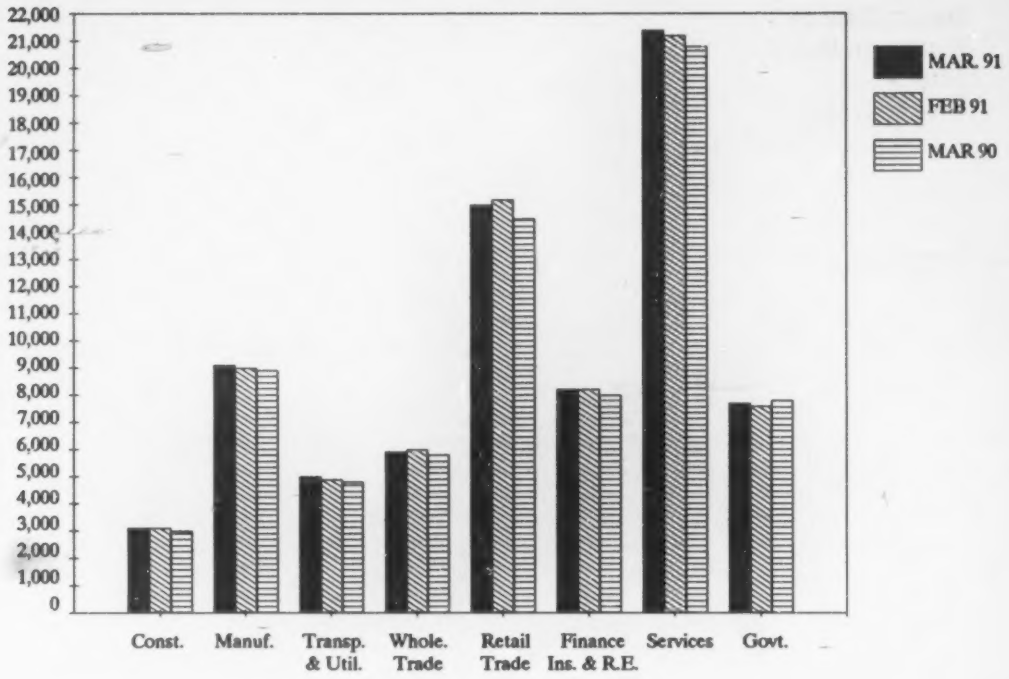
SOURCE: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

South Dakota Nonfarm Wage & Salary Employment (Jobs by Industry)

	March 1991	Feb. 1991	March 1990	Percent Change From Last Month	Percent Change From Last Year
TOTAL	287,700	286,200	279,900	.5	2.8
TOTAL PRIVATE	223,500	222,200	216,400	.6	3.3
GOODS PRODUCING	46,800	46,200	45,300	1.3	3.3
MINING	2,600	2,600	2,400	.0	8.3
CONSTRUCTION	10,400	10,200	9,400	2.0	10.6
MANUFACTURING	33,800	33,400	33,500	1.2	.9
Durable Goods	19,200	18,700	19,300	2.7	-.5
Fabricated Metals & Machinery	11,400	11,100	11,500	2.7	-.9
Nondurable Goods	14,600	14,700	14,200	-.7	2.8
Food & Kindred Products	7,600	7,700	7,500	-1.3	1.3
Printing & Publishing	3,200	3,200	3,200	.0	.0
SERVICE PRODUCING	240,900	240,000	234,600	.4	2.7
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	13,900	13,800	13,100	.7	6.1
Transportation	8,300	8,100	7,700	2.5	7.8
Communication	3,400	3,400	3,100	.0	9.7
Electric/Gas/Sanitary Services	2,200	2,300	2,300	-4.3	-4.3
TRADE	75,100	74,800	72,200	.4	4.0
Wholesale Trade	18,700	18,600	18,400	.5	1.6
Durable Goods	8,600	8,500	8,400	1.2	2.4
Nondurable Goods	10,100	10,100	10,000	.0	1.0
Retail Trade	56,400	56,200	53,800	.4	4.8
Eating and Drinking Establishments	20,200	20,100	19,100	.5	5.8
General Merchandise/Apparel	10,300	10,300	9,600	.0	7.3
Food Stores	8,300	8,200	8,100	1.2	2.5
FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE	16,400	16,300	16,200	.6	1.2
Finance	10,700	10,500	10,600	1.9	.9
Depository Institutions	5,600	5,600	5,600	.0	.0
Nondepository Institutions	4,300	4,300	4,300	.0	.0
Insurance Carriers, Agents & Brokers	4,000	4,000	3,800	.0	5.3
SERVICES	71,300	71,100	69,600	.3	2.4
Hotels/Motels & Amusements	8,400	8,200	7,800	2.4	7.7
Personal and Business	8,300	8,100	8,600	2.5	-3.5
Medical and Health Services	27,600	27,700	26,900	-.4	2.6
Hospitals	13,000	13,100	12,500	-.8	4.0
Health Services, other than Hospitals	14,600	14,600	14,400	.0	1.4
Educational Services	5,500	5,500	5,200	.0	5.8
Social Services	5,600	5,700	5,500	-1.8	1.8
Membership Organizations	8,600	8,600	8,500	.0	1.2
GOVERNMENT	64,200	64,000	63,500	.3	1.1
Federal	11,300	11,400	11,600	-.9	-2.6
State	17,200	17,000	17,000	1.2	1.2
State Education	8,700	8,400	8,500	3.6	2.4
Local	35,700	35,600	34,900	.3	2.3
Local Education	21,000	20,800	20,600	1.0	1.9

SOURCE: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Sioux Falls MSA Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment (Jobs by Industry)

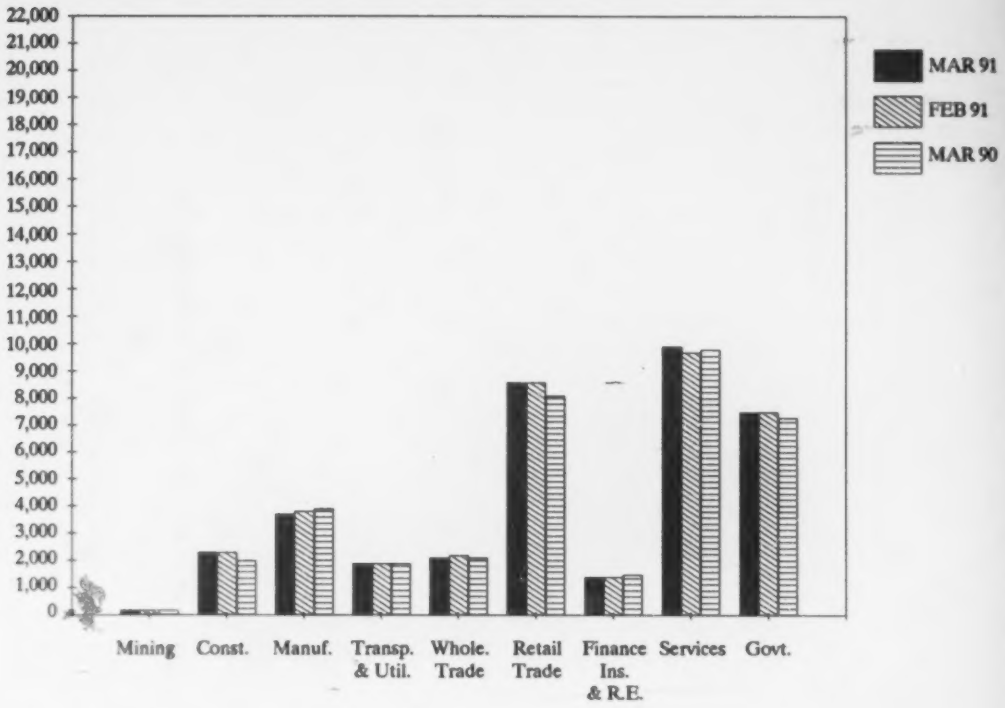


	March 1991	Feb. 1991	March 1990	Percent Change From Last Month	Percent Change From Last Year
TOTAL	75,400	75,200	73,700	.3	2.3
GOODS PRODUCING	12,200	12,100	12,000	.8	1.7
*MINING					
CONSTRUCTION	3,100	3,100	3,000	.0	3.3
MANUFACTURING	9,100	9,000	8,900	1.1	2.2
SERVICE PRODUCING	63,200	63,100	61,700	.2	2.4
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	5,000	4,900	4,800	2.0	4.2
TRADE	20,900	21,200	20,300	-1.4	3.0
Wholesale	5,900	6,000	5,800	-1.7	1.7
Retail	15,000	15,200	14,500	-1.3	3.4
FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE	8,200	8,200	8,000	.0	2.5
SERVICES	21,400	21,200	20,800	.9	2.9
GOVERNMENT	7,700	7,600	7,800	1.3	-1.3

*Mining employment not published, employment less than 100.

SOURCE: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Rapid City MSA Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment (Jobs by Industry)



	March 1991	Feb. 1991	March 1990	Percent Change From Last Month	Percent Change From Last Year
TOTAL	37,600	37,600	36,800	.0	2.2
GOODS PRODUCING	6,200	6,300	6,100	-1.6	1.6
MINING	200	200	200	.0	.0
CONSTRUCTION	2,300	2,300	2,000	.0	15.0
MANUFACTURING	3,700	3,800	3,900	-2.6	-5.1
SERVICE PRODUCING	31,400	31,300	30,700	.3	2.3
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	1,900	1,900	1,900	.0	.0
TRADE	10,700	10,800	10,200	-.9	4.9
Wholesale	2,100	2,200	2,100	-4.5	.0
Retail	8,600	8,600	8,100	.0	6.2
FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE	1,400	1,400	1,500	.0	-6.7
SERVICES	9,900	9,700	9,800	2.1	1.0
GOVERNMENT	7,500	7,500	7,300	.0	2.7

SOURCE: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

NOTE: The figures on pages 6, 7 and 8 include almost all nonfarm wage earners (full and part-time) but exclude the self-employed. They are derived from a monthly sample survey of South Dakota non-agricultural establishments and include workers on the payroll for the week including the 12th of the month. These tables compare the current month's employment totals of the major industry groups to the totals of the previous month and year.

Hours and Earnings of Production Workers in South Dakota

	Number of Production Workers			Average Weekly Hours		
	March 1991	Feb. 1991	March 1990	March 1991	Feb. 1991	March 1990
Total Private	185,500	184,200	179,600	32.1	32.4	32.1
Mining	2,200	2,200	2,000	42.8	41.6	41.3
Construction	7,900	7,800	7,300	38.5	37.6	36.7
Manufacturing	24,900	24,700	25,300	39.6	40.3	40.5
Transportation & Public Utilities	11,500	11,400	11,000	37.6	37.8	37.8
Wholesale & Retail Trade	65,700	65,500	63,000	29.2	29.3	29.3
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	12,300	12,200	12,200	35.1	35.3	34.4
Services	61,000	60,400	58,800	29.3	29.9	29.2

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Hourly Earnings		
	March 1991	Feb. 1991	March 1990	March 1991	Feb. 1991	March 1990
Total Private	$262.26	$263.41	$249.74	$8.17	$8.13	$7.78
Mining	541.42	522.50	521.21	12.65	12.56	12.62
Construction	401.17	388.41	376.18	10.42	10.33	10.25
Manufacturing	347.29	352.63	342.63	8.77	8.75	8.46
Transportation & Public Utilities	412.85	417.69	421.47	10.98	11.05	11.15
Wholesale & Retail Trade	196.22	196.90	185.47	6.72	6.72	6.33
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	305.37	300.05	275.89	8.70	8.50	8.02
Services	233.81	237.41	217.54	7.98	7.94	7.45

Hours and Earnings of Manufacturing Production Workers in MSAs

	Number of Manufacturing Production Workers			Average Weekly Hours		
	March 1991	Feb. 1991	March 1990	March 1991	Feb. 1991	March 1990
Sioux Falls MSA	6,300	6,200	6,300	42.7	41.0	42.5
Rapid City MSA	2,900	3,000	3,100	39.3	37.6	41.7

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Hourly Earnings		
	March 1991	Feb. 1991	March 1990	March 1991	Feb. 1991	March 1990
Sioux Falls MSA	$390.28	$372.28	$371.03	$9.14	$9.08	$8.73
Rapid City MSA	355.67	340.28	395.32	9.05	9.05	9.48

SOURCE: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor, in cooperation with the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics.

NOTE: Average hours and earnings data are derived from reports of payrolls and hours for production and related workers in manufacturing and mining, construction workers in construction, and non-supervisory employees in private service-producing industries. The data cover full and part-time employees who worked during or received pay for the payroll period that includes the 12th of the month. The earnings figures are "gross" figures. They may be higher than employer wage rates, since they reflect premium pay for shift differentials and overtime work. The hours figures relate to the hours for which pay was received; this is different from scheduled or standard work hours.

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed[1]

	March 1991	Feb. 1991	March 1990
Sex, Total	3,433	3,679	3,060
Male	2,532	2,739	2,097
Female	901	940	963
Race, Total	3,433	3,679	3,060
White	3,178	3,421	2,771
Nonwhite	255	258	289
Age, Total	3,433	3,679	3,060
Under 45	2,513	2,661	2,142
Over 45	920	1,018	918
[2]Industry, Total	3,433	3,679	3,060
Mining	104	139	113
Construction	1,073	1,247	917
Manufacturing	822	823	780
Transportation & Public Utilities	164	167	149
Trade	554	567	472
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	73	66	79
Services	478	508	434
Government	165	162	116
[2]Occupation	3,433	3,679	3,060
Professional & Managerial	384	360	306
Clerical and Sales	394	414	338
Services	373	404	324
Processing	111	134	118
Machine Trade	172	164	111
Benchwork	274	253	366
Structural Work	1,194	1,372	1,050
Other	531	578	447
Duration of Current Unemployment			
Total	3,433	3,679	3,060
1-2 Weeks	385	519	369
3-4 Weeks	388	564	294
5-14 Weeks	1,858	2,028	1,574
15 Weeks & Over	802	568	823

[1]The insured unemployed are those persons who had worked for employers covered by South Dakota's Unemployment Insurance laws and who filed claims for unemployment insurance compensation during the week including the 12th of the month.

[2]Refers to industry and occupation involvement prior to unemployment.

Selected Labor Department Activities

	March 1991	Feb. 1991	March 1990	Percent Change From Last Month	Percent Change From Last Year
Unemployment Insurance					
A. Initial Claims	1,582	1,890	1,343	-16.3	17.8
B. Weeks Compensated	13,999	15,400	12,777	-9.1	9.6
C. Amount of Benefit Payments	$1,410,081	$1,497,129	$1,564,416	-5.8	-9.9
D. Unemployment Trust Fund Bal.	$45,693,757	$45,966,720	$42,208,382	-0.6	8.3
Job Service					
E. Applicants Available (New and Renewal)	5,059	5,572	6,616	-9.2	-23.5
F. Nonfarm Placements	3,045	2,770	4,132	9.9	-26.3
G. Nonfarm Job Openings	8,508	8,446	10,734	0.7	-20.7

Selected Labor Department Activities (Continued)

	March 1991
H. Unemployment Insurance Savings	$110,616

The data above and in the table at the bottom of page 10 are taken from the records of the state unemployment insurance program and the state Job Service system.

A. Initial Claims - The total number of first claims for unemployment compensation.

B. Weeks Compensated - The total number of weeks for which claimants received compensation.

C. Amount of Benefit Payments - The total amount of money paid to claimants.

D. Unemployment Trust Fund Balance - The fund to which all required Unemployment Insurance taxes are paid and from which all benefits to claimants are paid.

E. Applicants Available (New and Renewals) - The total number of different individuals who registered or renewed their registrations for work at Job Service offices in the state.

F. Nonag Placements - A count of the number of times during the month that Job Service applicants were hired by nonfarm employers.

G. Nonag Job Openings - A count of new job openings received during the month by South Dakota Job Service offices from nonfarm employers.

H. Unemployment Insurance Savings - Estimated dollars saved due to placement of Unemployment Insurance claimants in jobs by Job Service.

Department of Labor Can Provide Assistance to Service People Returning Home From Operation Desert Storm

South Dakota's men and women who served in the Persian Gulf during Operation Desert Storm have already or will soon be returning to their native land. South Dakota, as well as the nation is proud to welcome them home. Along with the ticker tape all service people returning from Desert Storm can be confident that they will return to the jobs (or similar jobs) they left behind to serve their country.

The U.S. Labor Department has established a special telephone hotline to provide employment rights information to men and women who served in the military during the Persian Gulf war.

Under the federal Veteran's Re-Employment Rights Law, volunteers, reservists or National Guard members who left their jobs for the war have the right to get their old or similar jobs back.

The toll-free hotline is 1-800-4422-VET (800-442-2838).

Employers also are urged to call the hotline, which is staffed from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. CST Monday through Friday and can take messages at other times.

The re-employment law, in effect since 1940, requires veterans to re-apply for their old jobs within 90 days of returning from military service.

Military reservists continue to build seniority rights while on military duty.

South Dakota service personnel and employers may also contact their Veterans' Employment and Training Service for additional information. The telephone number for the Veterans' Employment and Training Service in South Dakota is (605) 226-7289.

South Dakota
Labor Bulletin

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Selected National Economic Indicators

	March 1991	Feb. 1991	March 1990	Percent Change From Last Month	Percent Change From Last Year
Consumer Price Index[1]	135.0	134.8	128.7	0.1	4.9
Industrial Production Index[2]	105.3	105.7	108.9	-0.4	-3.3
Retail Trade Sales[3]	$149,602	$150,822	$149,942	-0.8	-0.2
Privately Owned Housing Starts[4]	901	993	1,298	-9.3	-30.6
Bank Prime Loan Rate[5]	9.00	9.05	10.00	-0.55	-10.00

[1]U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. 1982-84 = 100.
[2]Federal Reserve Board. Includes manufacturing, mining and utilities. 1987 = 100. Seasonally adjusted.
[3]Bureau of the Census. Adjusted for seasonal, holiday and trading day differences. In millions of dollars.
[4]Bureau of the Census. Includes new, privately owned housing units started. Seasonally adjusted annual rates. In thousands of units.
[5]Federal Reserve Board. Annual rates.